

April, 2001

Imagination is Ingredient in Local Author's Classic

Hailed as the "children's book sensation of the year" by *Newsweek*, Duxbury author Marjorie Winslow's classic *Mud Pies and Other Recipes* has just been re-released in a special 40th Anniversary edition.

For four decades this has been the consummate cookbook for dolls using only the finest ingredients found in the great outdoors.

Author Winslow is pictured on the jacket cover with her daughters Susan and Kate, who staffed the original "test kitchen" in 1960 and for whom the book is dedicated.

A *Duxbury Clipper* article about the book first appeared in June 1961 and notes: "Author Marjorie Winslow is the wife of Richard Winslow, whose parents, Mr. and Mrs. Graham Winslow live on Standish Street. She is a former editor of *Mademoiselle* ..."

Today the author divides her time between Duxbury and Mesa, Arizona.

According to the foreword of this timeless classic, "This is a cookbook for dolls. It is written for kind climates and summertime."

The reader learns that any doll chef knows that no supermarket is as well stocked as a forest, a sand dune or, one's own backyard; and everyone knows that dolls love mud when properly prepared.

But more than text and pictures, *Mud Pies and Other Recipes* is a trip for a child's imagination. It is a cookbook for outdoor creations "because dolls dote on mud when it is properly prepared. They love to crunch on pine needles and enjoy the sweet feel of seaweed on the tongue."

The book invites the reader to use a tree stump for a counter. It suggests that the sea makes a nice sink and so does a puddle at the end of a hose. For a stove

there is the sun or a flat stone. Ovens can be found under bushes in sandboxes or behind trees.

This "cookbook" is divided into categories including: Appetizers; soups, salads and sandwiches; main dishes; pastries and desserts; beverages and suggested menus. It offers a variety of homemade original offerings including: Crab-

grass gumbo; Sawdust cake; Pencil Sharpener Pudding; Instant Mud Custard; Right-handed mudloaf; dandelion souffle; wood chip dip; and the age-old everyone's favorite, Mud Pies.

This special 40th anniversary edition also includes a tea party in the menu section so that "dolls with discerning palates" will be prepared for social oc-

casions. Suggested menu for the tea party includes: mud pies, sawdust cake, putty fours, bark sandwiches and rainspout tea. There are also menus for picnics, summer luncheons, buffet dinner, and wedding banquets.

"Cooking utensils should, whenever possible be made from something that would otherwise be thrown away..." The

author suggests empty milk cartons, egg cartons orange juice cans, soda caps and other unique "baking and cooking utensils."

Winslow reminds us "Doll cookery is not a very exacting art. The time it takes to cook a casserole depends upon how long your dolls are able to sit at the table without falling over. And if a recipe calls for a cupful of something, you can use a measuring cup or a teacup or a buttercup. It doesn't much matter. What does matter is that you select the best ingredients available, set a fine table and serve with style."

The book is illustrated by Erik Blegvad, distinguished illustrator of over 100 books for children. His classically fetching illustrations provide the perfect touch to the outdoor cookbook, which *Publisher's Weekly* called, "an adorable little book with charming pictures and a deadpan text" and *Life* called, "the nicest oddball cookbook of the year".

Sample Recipes Stuffed Sea Shells

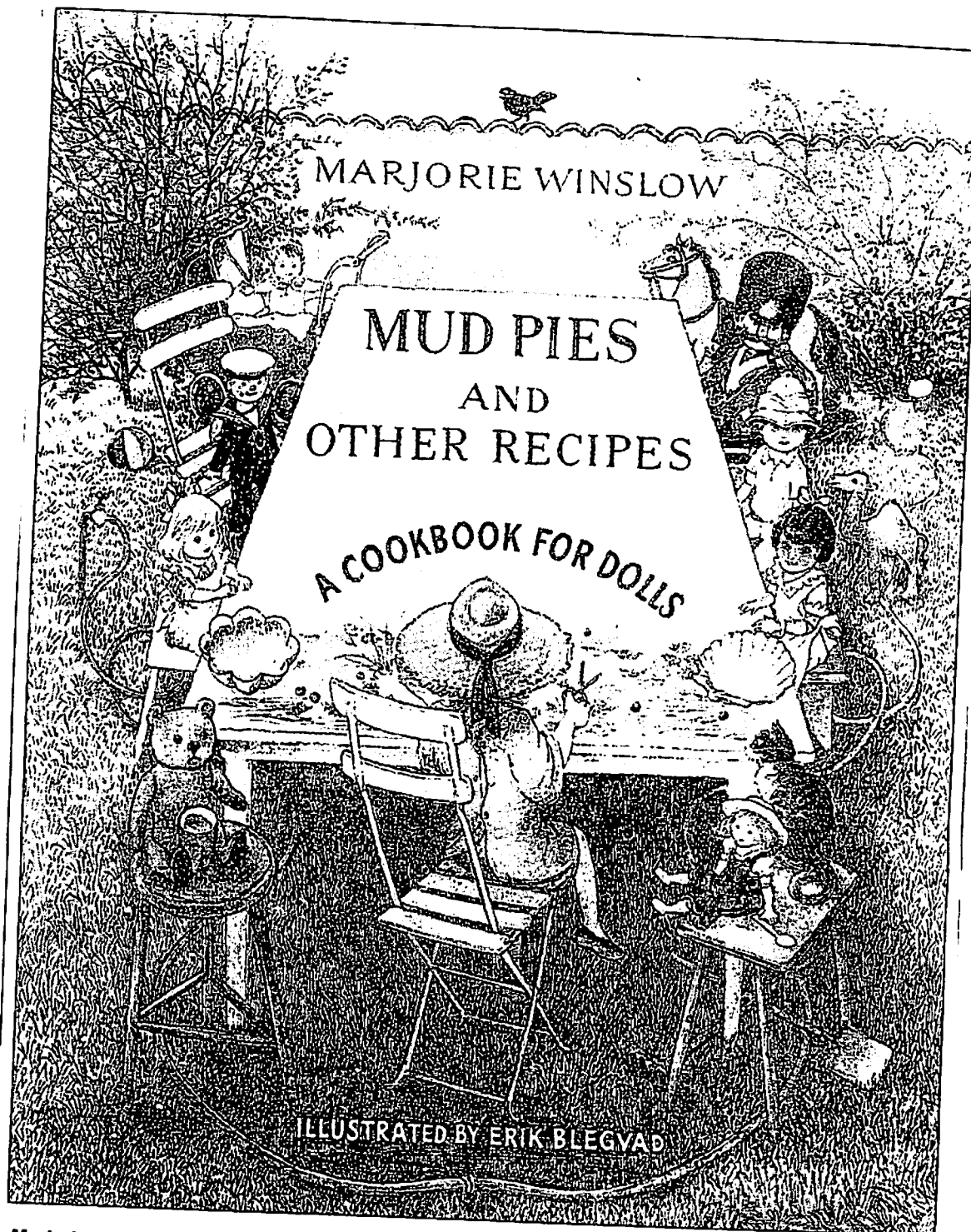
Scoop up a shovelful of sand that has just been licked by a wave. Pack this into the tiniest sea shells you can find. Sprinkle these with a pinch of dry sparkling sand and serve.

Assorted

Hors D'Oeuvres

Take the cardboard from a freshly laundered shirt. To this cardboard glue eight paper baking cups in pretty colors if possible. This is the hors'd'oeuvres tray. Into each cup place anything that comes to mind. Here are eight examples: grass, clover, pine needles, small berries, flower petals, crushed dry leaves, minced twigs, gravel.

Mudpies and Other Recipes - A Cookbook for Dolls is published by Walker & Company, New York. It will be available at Wm. ...



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